

## Message Text

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ORIGIN SS-25

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DRAFTED BY ARA:WPSTEDMAN:MMS:MDK (TEXT FROM WHITE HOUSE)

APPROVED BY S/AB:DHPOPPER

NSC:RPASTOR

WHITE HOUSE STAFF:PWIS

S/S -O:TMARTIN

DESIRED DISTRIBUTION

WHITE HOUSE ADVANCE OFFICE

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY CARACAS NIACT IMMEDIATE

INFO WHITE HOUSE IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 205716

EXDIS FOR CHIEF OF MISSION

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OTRA, PDIP, PN, PPDC, VE

SUBJECT: SIGNING CEREMONY FOR PANAMA CANAL TREATIES

1. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF LETTER FROM PRESIDENT CARTER TO PRESIDENT PEREZ INVITING HIM TO BILATERAL MEETING IN CONNECTION WITH PANAMA CANAL CEREMONIES TO BE HELD IN WASHINGTON SEPTEMBER 7. LETTER SHOULD BE CONVEYED TO HIGHEST APPROPRIATE AUTHORITY IMMEDIATELY. IN DELIVERING MESSAGE, PLEASE ALSO MAKE FOLLOWING THREE POINTS: (1) TACTFULLY SUGGEST THAT DELEGATION BE AS SMALL AS POSSIBLE BUT INCLUDE WIFE OF CHIEF OF STATE; (2) ADVISE THAT THE CHIEF OF STATE AND HIS WIFE ARE INVITED TO ATTEND A STATE DINNER WHICH WILL TAKE  
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PLACE IN CONNECTION WITH THE SIGNING CEREMONY, SEPTEMBER 7; AND (3) INFORM THAT MRS. CARTER IS PLANNING A SEPARATE EVENT FOR WIVES.

2. PLEASE ADVISE SOONEST RESPONSE TO LETTER (AND WHETHER WIFE WILL ACCOMPANY).

3. FYI: OUR CURRENT COUNT IS THAT 15 CHIEFS OF STATE

SO FAR HAVE AT LEAST TENTATIVELY DECIDED TO COME.

4. TEXT OF LETTER.

BEGIN TEXT: DEAR MR. PRESIDENT: I AM PLEASED TO INFORM YOU THAT AFTER 13 YEARS OF NEGOTIATIONS, THE GOVERNMENTS OF THE UNITED STATES AND PANAMA HAVE REACHED AGREEMENT ON NEW PANAMA CANAL TREATIES. I BELIEVE THAT THESE TREATIES REPRESENT AN HISTORIC MOMENT IN THE RELATIONS BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENTS OF THE AMERICAS, AND I AM VERY PLEASED THAT YOU WILL BE ABLE TO SHARE THAT MOMENT WITH ME AND WITH CHIEF OF GOVERNMENT OMAR TORRIJOS. WE LOOK FORWARD TO A FUTURE IN WHICH THE SAME SPIRIT OF PARTNERSHIP AND OF MUTUAL RESPECT THAT GUIDED US THROUGH THE NEGOTIATIONS WILL GUIDE RELATIONS AMONG THE NATIONS OF THIS HEMISPHERE.

I WOULD ESPECIALLY LIKE TO EXPRESS MY APPRECIATION FOR YOUR PERSONAL LEADERSHIP IN HELPING TO BRING THIS MATTER TO A SUCCESSFUL CONCLUSION AND FOR YOUR OFFER TO ENCOURAGE FULL SUPPORT FOR OUR EFFORTS.

DURING YOUR VISIT TO WASHINGTON, I LOOK FORWARD TO  
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TO MEETING WITH YOU PERSONALLY TO DISCUSS MAJOR SUBJECTS OF INTEREST TO OUR TWO COUNTRIES. WITH ROSALYNN'S VISIT TO CARACAS AND YOUR VISIT TO WASHINGTON, WE HAVE BEEN VERY FORTUNATE TO HAVE BEGUN A DIALOGUE ON SO WIDE A RANGE OF ISSUES. I WAS PARTICULARLY PLEASED TO LEARN FROM ANDY YOUNG THAT YOU WERE ABLE TO EXPLORE A NUMBER OF IDEAS FOR PROMOTING THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE COUNTRIES OF THE CARIBBEAN. WE HAVE BEEN WORKING ON THIS AS WELL AS ON OTHER MATTERS WHICH WE DISCUSSED, AND I LOOK FORWARD TO EXCHANGING IDEAS WITH YOU ON WAYS TO MOVE THESE ISSUES CLOSER TO RESOLUTION. I WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR THOUGHTS ON ANY MATTERS YOU WOULD LIKE TO DISCUSS DURING OUR MEETING.

PLEASE CONVEY MY WARMEST FRIENDSHIP TO THE PEOPLE OF VENEZUELA ON BEHALF OF THE PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, AND ACCEPT MY OWN PERSONAL BEST WISHES.  
SINCERELY, JIMMY CARTER. END TEXT.

5. SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION ON ARRANGEMENTS AND LOGISTICAL QUESTIONS WILL BE PROVIDED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. VANCE

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** TREATY SIGNATURE, DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS, INVITATIONS, REPRESENTATION AT CEREMONIES, CANALS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
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**Decaption Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** WPSTEDMAN:MMS:MDK (TEXT FROM WHITE HOUSE)  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** SIGNING CEREMONY FOR PANAMA CANAL TREATIES  
**TAGS:** OTRA, PDIP, PPDC, OVIP, EWWT, PN, VE, (PEREZ, CARLOS ANDRES)  
**To:** CARACAS  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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